



Education Watch

Enhancing Flexibility & Accountability ■ Leaving No Child Behind

U.S. House Education & the Workforce Committee ■ John Boehner, Chairman
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<http://edworkforce.house.gov/edwatch>

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Education Committee Unveils Spanish-Language Website

Education & the Workforce Committee Chairman John Boehner today unveiled a Spanish-language version of the committee's official website to bring President George W. Bush's message of bipartisan education reform to the Hispanic community (<http://edworkforce.house.gov/spanish/>).

President Bush has presented a bold vision for bipartisan education reform focused on ensuring high standards and accountability for all our schools, providing states and local school districts with new decision-making flexibility, and offering new choices to parents with children in struggling schools.

Indeed, ensuring that all children, regardless of their background, have the chance to learn and succeed is the central purpose of his *No Child Left Behind* plan, which includes reforms aimed at giving every student the opportunity to become fluent in English. The site underscores the commitment of President Bush and House Republicans to close the achievement gap between Hispanic students and their peers.

The Education & the Workforce Committee is the first House committee ever to offer a Spanish-language version of its website. The new site will provide Hispanic reporters, parents, students, teachers, school administrators and others with regular information about the President's efforts to bring Republicans and Democrats together to ensure that every child has the opportunity to learn.

Message of the Day

H.R. 1 closes the achievement gap between Hispanic children and their peers.

- ❑ *Every public school student deserves the opportunity to learn English fluently.*
- ❑ *H.R. 1 empowers parents to ensure that limited English proficient (LEP) children have this chance by requiring parents to give consent before a child is placed in any class not taught primarily in English.*
- ❑ *H.R. 1 requires states to show progress in moving LEP students to English proficiency.*
- ❑ *We have a moral obligation to bring real change to 35 years of failed education policies -- and to pass this bill for our children's future.*

DAILY EDUCATION FACTS

- According to a National Education Goal Panel report released earlier this year, only two states reduced the reading achievement gap between white students and Hispanic students. On average, whites scored 29 points ahead of Hispanics on standardized reading tests.
- Census Bureau data indicates America's Hispanic population has skyrocketed in the past decade, with Hispanics accounting for more than 12 percent of the nation's population. By 2020, the Hispanic population is expected to grow by another 20 percent.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It is a scandal of the first order when the average test scores of African-American and Latino students at age 17 are roughly the same as white 13-year-olds ... Children who never master reading will never master learning. They face a life of frustration on the fringes of society ... This is a personal tragedy. More and more, we are divided into two nations, separate and unequal." Governor George W. Bush, September 2, 1999